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EXAMINER

LU, KUEN S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2167

DATE MAILED: 05/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/001,506	TENORIO, MANOEL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kuen S Lu	2167	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 February 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

[Handwritten signature]

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendments

1. This Action is in response to Applicant's amendments made to the claims, filed on February 3, 2005.
2. As for amendments to the claims, including independent claims 1, 12, 20 and 28, has been noted, considered and addressed in the Office Action for non-Final Rejection, as shown next.
3. As for the Applicant' REMARKS, filed on February 3, 2005, has been fully considered by the Examiner. For the Examiner's response, please see discussion in the section ***Response to Arguments***, following the Office Action for Final Rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10-15, 19-23, 27-28, 31-33 and 36-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over OraEDI (Oracle® e-Commerce Gateway, User's Guide, Release 11i.2, August 2000, hereafter "OraEDI"), and further in view of Smithies et al. (U.S. Patent 6,091,835, hereafter "Smithies").

As per claims 1, 12, 20 and 28, OraEDI teaches the following:

"one or more document repositories storing a plurality of transaction documents" which are "capable of being used to facilitate a transaction with one or more sellers" (See Pages 2-2, 7-6 to 7-9 and 8-7 to 8-8 wherein OraEDI's e-commerce data files directories are the repositories of the plurality of the transaction documents (inbound and outbound data files), inbound data files for RFQ (request for quote) is processed to return a Request ID and invoice outbound extract is executed to bill customers for goods sold and services rendered is equivalent to Applicant's one or more document repositories storing a plurality of transaction documents capable of being used to facilitate a transaction with one or more sellers).

OraEDI does not specifically teach the documents are "each associated with a past transaction", although OraEDI teaches the document, at least portions of each transaction document, capable of being used to facilitate a transaction with one or more sellers as previously described.

However, Smithies teaches transaction documents are "each associated with a past transaction" (See col. 13, lines 32-41 wherein Smithies' affirming party to input a statement to memorize the intention for affirming the document in the circumstances of the transaction in the future is equivalent to the Applicant's transaction documents are each associated with a past transaction).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention was made to combine Smithies' teaching with OraEDI's because both references are devoted to e-commerce and transaction document processing where OraEDI provides a generic system while Smithies teaches transcribing electronic

affirmations, and the combined reference would have further enhanced OraEDI system's functionality by including electronic affirmation and keeping evidence of the affirmed documents and affirmation process.

OraEDI further teaches "a global content directory including a plurality of classes organized in a hierarchy, each class categorizing the transaction documents and associated with one or more attributes of the transaction documents categorized in the class, at least one of the classes having one or more associated pointers that identify one or more document repositories" (See Page 2-2 to 2-5 wherein OraEDI's the directories for e-commerce data files are specified and initialized during database startup, the directories are the pointers for data files, the directories for inbound and outbound data files are defined differently at system level profile options for pointing to different classes of transaction documents.

The combined teaching of OraEDI and smithies references further teaches "an intelligence module operable to, in response to selection of a transaction document by a party who was not a party to the past transaction associated with the transaction document, create a generic document capable of being used to facilitate a future transaction with at least one of the sellers from the selected transaction document stored in the one or more document repositories, the generic document created from the selected transaction document comprising the transaction document with selected information in the selected transaction document made inaccessible in the generic document" (See Smithies: col. 13, lines 32-41 and OraEDI: Pages 7-9 and 8-10 wherein an affirming party to input a statement to memorize the intention for affirming the

document in the circumstances of the transaction in the future, and e-commerce gateway is the intelligence module by which data file for shipping notice inbound transaction is imported into database and the payment remittance is created in the outbound transaction where the information of shipping note is different from payment remittance is equivalent to Applicant's an intelligence module operable to, in response to selection of a transaction document by a party who was not a party to the past transaction associated with the transaction document, create a generic document capable of being used to facilitate a future transaction with at least one of the sellers from the selected transaction document stored in the one or more document repositories, the generic document created from the selected transaction document comprising the transaction document with selected information in the selected transaction document made inaccessible in the generic document); and "a search interface operable to communicate a search query for the transaction documents to one or more document repositories identified by one or more pointers associated with one or more of the selected classes" (See Page 6-5 for navigating the data files directories is equivalent to Applicant's a search interface operable to communicate a search query for the transaction documents to one or more document repositories identified by one or more pointers associated with one or more of the selected classes).

As per claims 2, 13, 21 and 36, OraEDI teaches "the transaction documents comprise third party documents" (See Pages 1-1 and 7-4 wherein OraEDI's Sales Catalog

Inbound Program imports suppliers catalogs, a third party transaction documents, into Purchasing System for trading partners to enable transactions is equivalent to Applicant's the transaction documents comprise third party documents).

As per claims 3, 15 and 23, OraEDI teaches "the classes comprise a plurality of document classes" (See Pages 1-5 wherein OraEDI's data files comprise classes in according to the Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Trade is equivalent to Applicant's the classes comprise a plurality of document classes).

As per claims 4, 14, 22 and 37 wherein OraEDI's "the classes comprise a plurality of product classes" (See Page 1-5 wherein OraEDI's data files comprise classes in according to transaction codes is equivalent to Applicant's the classes comprise a plurality of product classes).

As per claims 6, 31 and 38, OraEDI teaches "the search interface is further operable to allow a user to navigate through the classes to search for a particular transaction document" (See Page 6-5 wherein OraEDI's user navigates select the particular transaction document is equivalent to Applicant's the search interface is further operable to allow a user to navigate through the classes to search for a particular transaction document).

As per claim 8, OraEDI teaches “allow a user to view the generic document” (See 6-5 wherein OraEDI’s user navigates select the particular transaction document to view is equivalent to Applicant’s allow a user to view the generic document).

As per claims 10, 32 and 39, OraEDI teaches “the documents comprise one or more standard documents stored in a shared document repository” (See Page 6-6 wherein OraEDI’s inbound price catalog, OPM purchase order, production sequence, planning schedule and shipping schedule transaction documents are stored in the shared directory is equivalent to Applicant’s the documents comprise one or more standard documents stored in a shared document repository).

As per claims 11, 33 and 40, OraEDI teaches “the documents comprise one or more unique documents stored in one or more seller databases” (See Pages 8-7 and 8-8 wherein OraEDI’s the invoice tables are the seller databases to store the documents for goods sold and services rendered is equivalent to Applicant’s the documents comprise one or more unique documents stored in one or more seller databases).

As per claims 19 and 27, OraEDI teaches the following:
“selecting a transaction document from the transaction documents located using the search interface” (See Page 6-5 wherein OraEDI’s user navigates the view staged documents menu to select a transaction document is equivalent to Applicant’s selecting

a transaction document from the transaction documents located using the search interface);

"viewing the generic document created from the transaction document" (See Page 6-5 wherein OraEDI's user navigates the view staged documents menu to select and view a transaction document is equivalent to Applicant's viewing the generic document created from the transaction document); and

"completing the generic document with a plurality of user specific information" (See Page 6-5 wherein OraEDI's user navigates the view staged documents menu to select, view and submit to complete a transaction document is equivalent to Applicant's completing the generic document with a plurality of user specific information).

6. Claims 5, 7, 9, 16-18, 24-26, 29-30, 34-35 and 41-42 are rejected are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over OraEDI (Oracle® e-Commerce Gateway, User's Guide, Release 11i.2, August 2000, hereafter "OraEDI") in view of Smithies et al. (U.S. Patent 6,091,835, hereafter "Smithies"), as applied to Claims 1, 12, 20 and 28 above, and further in view of Keller et al. (U.S. Publication 2003/0050958, hereafter "Keller").

As per claims 5, 16 and 24, OraEDI teaches the following:

"segmenting the selected transaction document into one or more sections" (See Page 3-3 wherein OraEDI's data file is divided into sections, including Control Record, for

different information is equivalent to Applicant's segmenting the selected transaction document into one or more sections); and

"determining which sections of the selected transaction document are generic and which sections are specific to the past transaction" (See Page 5-3 wherein OraEDI's the interface data file is divided into sections based on its definition with transaction levels differ when compared to the base application tables as data is de-normalized is equivalent to Applicant's determining which sections of the selected transaction document are generic and which sections are specific to the past transaction).

The combined teaching of OraEDI and smithies references further teaches "removing from the selected transaction document information in the sections specific to the past transaction to create the generic document capable of being used to facilitate the future transaction" (See Smithies: col. 13, lines 32-41 wherein an affirming party to input a statement to memorize the intention for affirming the document in the circumstances of the transaction in the future, and OraEDI: Page 7-3 wherein OraEDI's invoice data is deleted from Open Interface tables after invoice data is imported to Payables is equivalent to Applicant's removing from the selected transaction document information in the sections specific to the past transaction to create the generic document capable of being used to facilitate the future transaction).

The combined teaching of Smithies-OraEDI references does not specifically teach "carrying forward the generic sections from the selected transaction document into the generic document to protect one or more confidential details in the selected transaction document".

However, Keller teaches “carrying forward the generic sections from the selected transaction document into the generic documents to protect one or more confidential details in the selected transaction document” (See Page 2, [0015] wherein Keller’s manufacturer downloads transaction documents, partitions the file and protects the file by security techniques so that the protected sections will not be disclosed to other unauthorized manufacturers is equivalent to Applicant’s carrying forward the generic sections from the selected transaction document into the generic documents to protect one or more confidential details in the selected transaction document).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant’s invention was made to further combine Keller’s teaching with the already combined teaching of Smithies and OraEDI references because all references are devoted to electronic business transactions where the combined Smithies and OraEDI references teach generic EDI transaction with electronic affirmation feature while Keller teaches a specific on-line facility for retailing customer to interact with suppliers, the further combined teaching would have further enhanced a electronic business system’s functionality by performing supplier and reseller interactions, and affirming transactions together.

As per claims 7, 18 and 26, OraEDI further teaches “intelligence module is further operable to dynamically adjust the information in the sections in the generic document to include current information” (See Page 5-3 wherein OraEDI’s an EDI Gateway menu is provided for navigation the change of interface data files is equivalent to Applicant’s

intelligence module is further operable to dynamically adjust the information in the sections in the generic document to include current information).

As per claims 9, 17 and 25, Keller further teaches “a security module associated with the global content directory, the security module operable to encrypt the transaction documents to control user access to the documents” (See Page 2, [0015] wherein Keller’s manufacturer downloads transaction documents, partitions the file and protects the file by security techniques so that the protected sections will not be disclosed to other unauthorized manufacturers is equivalent to Applicant’s a security module associated with the global content directory, the security module operable to encrypt the transaction documents to control user access to the documents).

As per claims 29, 34 and 41 Keller further teaches “the intelligence module is operable to make the selected information in the transaction document inaccessible in the generic document by deleting at least a portion of the selected information” (See Page 2, [0015] wherein Keller’s the transaction server partitions and utilizes security techniques to protect data from unauthorized access is equivalent to Applicant’s the intelligence module is operable to make the selected information in the transaction document inaccessible in the generic document by deleting at least a portion of the selected information).

As per claims 30, 35 and 42, Keller further teaches "the intelligence module is operable to make the selected information in the transaction document inaccessible in the generic document by encrypting at least a portion of the selected information" (See Page 2, [0015] wherein Keller's the transaction server partitions and utilizes security techniques to protect data from unauthorized access is equivalent to Applicant's the intelligence module is operable to make the selected information in the transaction document inaccessible in the generic document by encrypting at least a portion of the selected information).

7. The prior art made of record

U. Oracle® e-Commerce Gateway, User's Guide, Release 11i.2, August 2000

A. U.S. Publication 2003/0050958

D. U.S. Patent 6,091,835

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

B. U.S. Patent 6,442,574

C. U.S. Publication 2001/0049675

Response to Arguments

8. The Applicant's arguments filed on February 3, 2005 have been fully considered, but they are not persuasive. For the Examiner's response, please see discussion below.

a). At Pages 12-13, regarding claim(s) 1, (12, 20 and 28), the Applicant argued that the OraEDI reference fails to teach the amended claim limitation of "an intelligence

module operable to, in response to selection of a transaction document by a party who was not a party to the past transaction associated with the transaction document, create a generic document capable of being used to facilitate a future transaction with at least one of the sellers from the selected transaction document stored in the one or more document repositories, the generic document created from the selected transaction document comprising the transaction document with selected information in the selected transaction document made inaccessible in the generic document”.

As to the above argument **a)**, the Examiner respectfully submits that the Smithies reference teaches “in response to selection of a transaction document by a party who was not a party to the past transaction associated with the transaction document” at col. 13, lines 32-41 wherein an affirming party to input a statement to memorize the intention for affirming the document in the circumstances of the transaction in the future, to combine with the originally presented OraEDI teaching to teach the amended limitation. For further details, please refer to the Office Action for non-Final Rejection as previously presented.

b). At Pages 13-14, regarding claim(s) 1, (12, 20 and 28), the Applicant argued that the OraEDI reference fails to teach creating a generic document ... from the selected transaction document.

As to the above argument **b)**, the Examiner respectfully the Examiner respectfully submits that, as previously described in item **a)**, the Examiner has introduced the Smithies reference for teaching of an affirming party to input a statement to memorize the intention for affirming the document in the circumstances of the transaction in the

future. Please note the document, as created, allows future transaction suggests its generic in nature.

c). At Pages 15-18, regarding claims 5, (16 and 24), the Applicant argued that Keller reference fails to make up the deficiencies of OraEDI reference for teaching every limitation of the amended claims.

As to the above argument c), the Examiner respectfully the Examiner respectfully submits that, as previously described in items a) and b), the Examiner has introduced the Smithies reference wherein "an affirming party to input a statement to memorize the intention for affirming the document in the circumstances of the transaction in the future" provides a teachings of "in response to selection of a transaction document by a party who was not a party to the past transaction associated with the transaction document" and creating generic document. The teachings are also applied to the amended claims 5, 16 and 24 as detailed in the Office Action.

9. Regarding claims 2-4, 6-11, 13-15, 17-19, 21-23, 25-27 and 29-42, the claims are dependent on claims 1, 12, 20 and 28. The Examiner applied the stated arguments as previously described in the Office Action for the Final Rejections.

10. In light of the forgoing arguments, the U.S.C 103 rejections for Claims 1-42 are hereby sustained.

Conclusions

18. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad Ali whose telephone number is (571) 272-


4105. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (7:30 am-6:00 pm). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for Page 13 published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kuen S. Lu

Patent Examiner

May 8, 2005


Mohammad Ali
Primary Examiner

May 8, 2005